

**The Democratic Opportunity.**  
Every Democrat should take to heart the sentiment uttered by Mr. Tilden when he said: "I am consoled by the reflection that neither the Democratic party nor the republic, for whose future that party is the best guarantee, is now, or ever can be, dependent upon any one man for their successful progress in the path of noble destiny." This would have been pregnant with truth and suggestion at any time and in any crisis, but it is particularly so at this time and in this crisis. It strikes the key-note of the canvass, and should be echoed and reechoed throughout the length and breadth of the land.

If the Democratic party ever had an opportunity to satisfy the demands of the conservative elements of the country for reform in its broadest and most patriotic aspects it has it now. If ever there was a propitious occasion for it to make a record upon principles that appeal to the best interests of the country that occasion is before it. If ever the people looked to a party to purify the Government in all its departments they now look to the Democratic party to do that work.

The protestation of the ultra Blaine organs to the contrary notwithstanding, it must be evident to every observant man that the revolt against the Republican party is no ephemeral or sudden impulse. It had been going on for some time, and the outcome of the Chicago Convention simply hastened it to its full tide. The efforts of some of the most influential and pronounced Republican leaders to defeat Mr. Blaine of nomination afford the best evidence that they recognized that the process of disintegration had commenced. They saw, as the Philadelphia Times expressed it, that the Republican party was dying on its knees, and that it could not afford to take any risks in the nomination. They realized that there was a widespread conviction among the thinking masses that the party had been trusted once too often; that the business-men of the country were awakening to the fact that Republican promises were made to be broken, and that unless a ticket was put up which the people could be induced to believe was a guarantee of reform, and a platform was adopted that bore internal evidences of honesty, Chicago would probably prove the beginning of the end. The present position of some of these papers in declining to support the ticket, and of others in accepting it under protest, shows that neither of these requirements has been fulfilled. The attitude of such papers as the New York Times, the Philadelphia Evening Telegraph, and the Springfield Republican, which represent respectively the Republicans that are bitterly hostile to Mr. Blaine, those that are determined to make the best of a bad bargain, and those that may be classed as strictly independent, is an admission that the people have, with reason, at last reached the verdict that the Republican party has found wanting. In short, the situation as presented to us from a Republican standpoint confirms the declaration of Mr. Tilden. It says as plainly as language can put it that the public are tired of and disgusted with sectionalism, fraud, corruption, and misrule. It declares that the time is at hand for reconquering dethroned honesty. It tells the Democratic party that all else should be subordinated to one great task—that of cleaning out the Augean stables. It prophesies that if we will make the fight on reform we must win, no matter who our candidate may be, so he is honest. If we are wise we will learn from our enemies.

**Enthusiastic Support?**  
Among the independent and Republican papers of influence that are opposed to Mr. Blaine are the following:  
The New York Times, New York Herald, Harper's Weekly, Puck, the Independent, Evening Telegram, Brooklyn Union, Rochester Post-Express, Rochester Herald, Syracuse Herald, Flushing Times, Boston Advertiser, Boston Transcript, Springfield Republican, Philadelphia Record, Philadelphia Times, Chicago Times, Chicago News, New Haven News, and the New York Evening Post.  
In Boston only two papers, the Journal and the Traveller, support the ticket, the former with a very wary face; and in New York the Tribune alone of the prominent journals comes out squarely for it. Quite a number of other Republican papers are very unhappy over their dish of crow, and still another class render allegiance in words that are about the temperature of the Edmunds boom. The Burlington Free Press, for instance, after announcing that "it does not regard Mr. Blaine as objectionable that he cannot receive the votes of honest men," informs us that "as almost anything would be preferable to a return of the Democratic party to power in the nation, we shall render the ticket put in nomination at Chicago such support as may be in our power," while the Buffalo Commercial Advertiser says:  
"Not cheerfully, not contentedly, but yet loyally, does the Commercial accede to the will of the majority of the representatives of the Republic as declared in the fourth ballot at the Chicago Convention."  
These specimen extracts are what the New York Tribune and Philadelphia Press would call supporting the ticket with enthusiasm, but what the public would call damning it with faint praise.

While the National Republican Convention was recording the alleged opposition of the Republican party to the acquisition of large tracts of public lands by corporations, and pledging the party to demand of Congress "a speedy forfeiture of all lands granted which have lapsed by reason of the non-compliance with the acts of incorporation," &c., the Republicans in Congress were filibustering to prevent just such legislation. Nevertheless the Democrats in the House have already passed bills forbidding nearly seventy millions acres granted to railroad companies in various States and Territories. When it is remembered that the above presents fair samples of Republican promises and Democratic works, it would seem that the latter afford much better guarantee of reform than do the former, not only in this but in all other matters. What is true of the land-grant men in the Chicago drug-net is true of the whole net.

The leaven of disintegration continues to work in New England. The New Haven (Conn.) Morning News is another Republican paper that recognizes that the nomination of Mr. Blaine has rendered the situation serious for its party. It says:  
"Is that man going to build up the party whose nomination alienates some of its most honored leaders? In the great army of Republicans to be consolidated under a

commander who begins his career with the corps of Independent Republicans deserting from his standard? Is his selection the choice of a leader who will conciliate and unite rather than distract and weaken? A Republican National Convention which has at last made one of those mistakes which has so often had opportunity to charge upon its foes? Whether the error proved fatal depends largely on whether the coming Democratic National Convention gives voters only a choice of evils."  
The News may rest assured that the Democratic party will not give the voters a choice of evils. If the independent voters do not vote for reform in the next presidential election it will not be the fault of the Democratic party.

The statement of the Journal des Debats that the agitation in England over the Egyptian question puts at stake the maintenance or rupture of the relations between France and England is commanding more than would a similar statement from any of the other Paris papers. The Journal is one of the firmest supporters of the French Ministry, and one of its most active editors is known to enjoy the full confidence of the President of the Council. It is also noted for its conservatism. Its declaration may, therefore, it is said, be taken as indicating a definite determination on the part of the French Government to take a very bold stand for the recovery of the influence of France in European matters.

**BRIEF COMMENT.**  
It begins to look as if the ambition of every northern city was to have a defaulting cashier.

It would seem that Mr. Blaine's magnetism has gotten away from him and is knocking the Republican paper's all away.

The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin says: "Campano lying is one of the modern fine arts." The Evening Bulletin ought to know.

The Galveston News says: "The Republican platform was evidently forged at the same old shop." Yes; and is worth about as much as any other forged paper.

The Boston Globe says: "An overcoat is a good thing to have within reach all summer in this treacherous climate." It is evident that the Edmunds boom has returned to New England.

If the murdering business in Cincinnati keeps up to the present standard for a few weeks the city will have another jail full of murderers, and Mr. MURAT HALSTEAD will be able to have some more fun.

The "enthusiasm" of some of the Republican papers that opposed the nomination of Mr. Blaine, but have decided since his nomination to support him, is very suggestive of the attempts of a wet pop-cracker to make a noise.

An enthusiastic Republican contemporary, in announcing the nomination of Mr. Blaine, exclaims:  
"Ring out, wild bells!  
All right. Ring away. Early in November next it will be  
"Toll, funeral bells!"

**CHARLIE AMONG THE GYPSIES.**  
The Adventures of a Lad Who Claims that He is the Long-Lost Son of Mr. Ross.  
[Quincy Herald.]  
There seems to be no doubt of the fact that the real lost Charlie Ross is now in Quincy, where he is spending a few days with Dr. Kalb prior to being sent to his parents in Philadelphia. The unadorned history he gives of things which occurred at his father's prior to and the manner of his being abducted by the gypsies, as also the treatment he received for ten years while a prisoner, and the simple, unaffected answers he gave to the many questions propounded by Dr. Kalb, leave no doubt in the mind of Dr. Kalb as to the once-lost Charlie Ross being here. He made his escape from the gypsies last fall in Austin, Texas. He at once began to work his way to his parents, and now, being without money, he is detained here, but will be sent to his parents, perhaps next week.

He says he has always, since he was stolen, when four or five years old, thought about himself as being Charlie Ross, and the gypsies would not allow him to go by that name, nor to tell who he was. He was held in bondage, so he says, for the purpose of begging and stealing for the gypsies, but the latter he would not do, and for refusing to do so he received many blows, the scars from which show him.

**Struck Down by Lightning.**  
A New-Martinville (West Va.) telegram says: A terrific thunder-storm visited this place Wednesday evening, doing considerable damage. It was unusual in its violence and course, coming from the southeast. Its approach was sudden and unheralded. The thunder was terrific and the lightning unprecedented. The wind did considerable damage to trees and shrubbery. A ten-year-old boy named McIntire took refuge from the storm under a tree. He had been there but a short time when lightning struck the tree, knocking the boy senseless. His recovery is considered doubtful. A companion who was standing near by was also shocked.

**Bradlaugh and the Prince of Wales.**  
The Dublin Freeman's Journal says that Mr. Charles Bradlaugh wrote a letter to the Prince of Wales as a brother Mason, asking the Prince's support to an atheistical propaganda, which he said it was the duty of English and continental Masons to promote. The Prince was greatly annoyed at the receipt of the letter, and sent it to Lord Carnarvon. It is believed that Lord Carnarvon will move in the Grand Lodge for the expulsion of Bradlaugh. Should Bradlaugh be expelled other atheists will secede from Freemasonry.

**The King of Holland in a Critical Condition.**  
The King of Holland is seriously ill at Carlsbad. His physicians forbade his seeing the Prince of Orange while he is in such a dangerous condition. Leading members of the reigning party state that general preparations are being made to support the Regency in the event of the King's death. Queen Emma will resist the candidacy of the Duke of Nassau.

**The Morganatic Affair Ended.**  
The Kalomine-Hesse affair has at last been settled in a satisfactory manner. The marriage is annulled, and Madame Kalomine is created Countess Von Romsdorf. She received also the sum of £25,000 as an annual income during life of £1,000. It is stipulated further that she is not to reside in Germany or England.

**Dead From Top to Bottom.**  
[Chicago Times.]  
Alexander McClure says: "The Convention that has just adjourned proved to every intelligent and unbiased observer that the Republican party is rapidly dying at the top." McClure is right, and he might have added that by the middle of next November the Republican party will be so dead from top to bottom that it may be interred without the slightest fear of burying it alive.

**Horsford's Acid Phosphate in Sea-Sickness.**  
[S. S. Parker, Wellington, O., says:] "While crossing Lake Erie I gave it to some passengers who were seasick, and it gave immediate relief."

ALL OVER THE STATE.

PETERSBURG AND VICINITY.

An Important Suit—An Action for Five Thousand Dollars—Against a Railroad Company.  
[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]  
For the last two days an important and interesting suit, instituted by Mr. John Mann, the owner of the Jarratt's Hotel property in this city, against the Petersburg Railroad Company, has been before Judge Welsiger's court. The suit is an action for \$5,000 damages, alleged to have been sustained by the proprietor of the hotel property growing out of the use which has been made by the railroad company of the tracks in front of the hotel for several years. The plaintiff claims that there has been negligent and improper use of the tracks in various ways, and consequent injury to his property. This the railroad company denies.

Yesterday and to-day the court has been occupied in hearing argument on law points arising on a demurrer to the plaintiff's declaration. The counsel for the plaintiff are Judge W. H. Mahan, of Norfolk, and Messrs. D. M. Bernard, of this city. The railroad company are represented by Alexander Hamilton, Esq., of this city, and Colonel W. M. Gordon, of Richmond. Major Myers, president of the road, has been in court during the argument to-day. The counsel for the defendant are Judge W. H. Mahan, of Norfolk, and Messrs. D. M. Bernard, of this city. The railroad company are represented by Alexander Hamilton, Esq., of this city, and Colonel W. M. Gordon, of Richmond. Major Myers, president of the road, has been in court during the argument to-day. The counsel for the defendant are Judge W. H. Mahan, of Norfolk, and Messrs. D. M. Bernard, of this city. The railroad company are represented by Alexander Hamilton, Esq., of this city, and Colonel W. M. Gordon, of Richmond. 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